

AXBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1961.



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AXBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1961.

TO: THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
AXBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the health of the District, and the work of the Public Health Department in 1961.

The statistical section shows rates which bear favourable comparison with those for the rest of the Country, and in infectious diseases the only thing of note was the usual two-yearly epidemic of measles in the younger children.

As I have said in previous Reports during the past few years, one of the District Council's most important functions is now the provision of effective and adequate systems of sewage disposal. Progress on the planning of a number of these schemes, particularly the Hutton, Locking and Banwell Scheme, the Kewstoke Scheme and the Brean and Berrow Scheme, has been good, and I am glad to say that co-operation with the Borough of Weston-super-Mare is likely to produce some combined schemes which will be of advantage, both financially and practically, to both Authorities.

Connected with this subject to some extent the increased motor traffic through the District, particularly during the summer months, has raised a problem which is becoming more serious from year to year. Mr. Uren, the Divisional Surveyor, has given me the following figures showing the amount of traffic on the A.38 at Lulsgate in 1954 compared with 1961. The figures were obtained in a comprehensive census of traffic during one week at the peak of the holiday season in August.

<u>Road No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Average vehicles per Day</u>		
		<u>1954</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>% increase</u> <u>1961 over</u> <u>1954</u>
A.38	Lulsgate (day)	7145	12,842	80%
A.38	Lulsgate (night)	432	973	125%

Mr. Uren estimates that if the present rate of growth continues, traffic will double in about ten years.

The main trunk roads in Somerset therefore not only bring a swarm of motorists to the County on holiday, but also act as funnels for even greater numbers on their way to pack the beaches of Devon and Cornwall. Many break their journey by parking in lay-bys for the night, and apart from the litter they leave, foul the lay-bys and the surrounding hedges and woods with excreta. This is creating, in the hygiene as well as the aesthetic sense, what could easily be a most dangerous situation.

The problem of night parking is therefore urgent, and should be tackled now. One solution is the creation of large car parks at suitable intervals along the main roads. These should be provided with an adequate number of the basic sanitary requirements, and if practicable, it should then be made illegal to use lay-bys as overnight camping sites. The arrangements for providing these car parks should be agreed between the District Councils concerned, the County Council and the Ministry of Transport. It is not enough for any individual District Council to make its own plans for its own area. The problem has to be dealt with at least on a County basis.

Since my last Report, the Minister of Health has issued his Hospital Plan for England and Wales. This gives what he hopes can be done in the way of new hospital building and improvements to existing hospitals in the next ten years. It was hoped that for this area we would have a new hospital within the next ten years, but it is disappointing to read that the Minister does not see this happening until after 1970-71. He infers, however, that the Hospital Plan is not something which is fixed and cannot be changed, but that the programme will be reviewed annually. If, therefore, all those concerned with the Hospital Service locally can show the increasing need for a new hospital, the date of starting to build it may be brought forward.

Mr. Ellis' section of the Report shows the ever increasing amount of work which the Public Health Inspectors' carry out in connection with two important parts of their day-to-day duties, namely Caravan Sites and Improvement Grants for houses. The Council's interpretation of the "Caravan" Act of 1960 has undoubtedly led to a rise in the standards of hygiene and amenities on caravan sites in the area, and the work involved in raising these standards is being done willingly by the majority of site owners. As you know, however, it will be some time yet before all requirements have been carried out.

The Improvement Grants Scheme continues to give many sub-standard houses a new lease of life.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr. Ellis, the Chief Public Health Inspector, and other members of the staff of the Public Health Department for the excellent work they have put in during the year, and may I also thank the Chairman and Members of the Committees with which the Health Department is associated for their support, and the Officers and Staff of other Departments for their assistance and co-operation.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

D. McGOWAN.

Medical Officer of Health.

October, 1962.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

General Statistics.

Area of District	90,551 acres
Population: 1931 Census	22,076
" 1951 "	26,535
" Registrar General's Estimate for Mid 1961	30,830
Rateable Value	£385,157
Number of Inhabited Houses	9,515

Extracts from Vital Statistics for Year 1961

LIVE BIRTHS:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	233	186	419
Illegitimate	10	9	19
	<u>243</u>	<u>195</u>	<u>438</u>

LIVE BIRTHS RATE: (per 1,000 population) = 14.2

CORRECTED BIRTH RATE: (Comparability Factor 1.07) = 15.2

ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS: (per cent of total live births) = 4.3%

STILL BIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	4	1	5
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>

STILL BIRTH RATE: (per 1,000 live and still births) = 11.3

TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS: 443

INFANT DEATHS: (Deaths under 1 year)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	3	6
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

TOTAL INFANT DEATHS (per 1,000 live births) - total = 16.0

LEGITIMATE INFANT DEATHS (per 1,000 legitimate live births) = 14.3

ILLEGITIMATE INFANT DEATHS (per 1,000 illegitimate live births) = 52.6

NEONATAL MORTALITY RATE (per 1,000 live births) = 16.0

EARLY NEONATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births = 13.7)

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (still births & deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live & still births) = 24.8

MATERNAL DEATHS - Nil

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE (per 1,000 live and still births) = Nil

DEATHS:

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
198	191	389

CRUDE DEATH RATE: (per 1,000 population) = 12.6

CORRECTED DEATH RATE: (Comparability Factor 0.94) = 11.9

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

The Registrar General gives the corrected number of live births in the District as 438 (243 boys and 195 girls), this being 39 births less than in 1960. Of these births 19 were illegitimate (10 boys and 9 girls).

The crude birth rate for 1961 was 14.2 and when the comparability factor (1.07) is applied, the corrected birth rate was 15.2 per 1,000 of the total population compared with 18.0 in 1960. The birth rate for England and Wales in 1961 was 17.4.

BIRTH RATES

<u>Year:</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>
England and Wales	15.3	15.5	15.2	15.0	15.6	16.1	16.4	16.5	17.1	17.4
Axbridge Rural District	14.0	15.2	16.0	14.6	12.8	15.9	16.4	14.9	18.0	15.2

STILL BIRTHS

The registered number of still births in 1961 was 5 (4 males and 1 female) of which none were illegitimate, thus giving a still birth rate of 11.3 per 1,000 total births.

DEATHS

After correction for transferable deaths the net total assigned to the District by the Registrar General was 389 (198 males and 191 females). This is 20 more than in 1960 and gives a crude death rate of 12.6. When adjusted for age and sex distribution to make it comparable with other districts, the death rate was 11.9 per 1,000 of total population compared with 12.0 for England and Wales as a whole.

The following table shows the causes of death in 1961:-

<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>1961</u>		
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	-	1	1
Other forms of tuberculosis	-	-	-
Syphilitic diseases	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	6	11
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	13	2	15
Malignant neoplasm, breasts	1	7	8
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	14	15	29
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	-	2
Diabetes	1	2	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	26	35	61
Coronary disease, angina pectoris	34	24	58
Hypertension with heart disease	3	2	5
Other heart diseases	26	43	69
Other circulatory diseases	9	8	17
Influenza	4	6	10
Pneumonia	11	6	17
Bronchitis	6	3	9
Other diseases of respiratory system	6	2	8
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	-	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	3	6
Hyperplasia of prostate	5	-	5
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	2	1	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	18	28
Motor vehicle accidents	7	1	8
All other accidents	3	3	6
Suicide	3	1	4
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
All Causes - <u>Total</u>	198	191	389
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

SEX AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS 1961.

Ages at Death in Years:-

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 1	4	3	7
1 - 4	1	-	1
5 - 14	1	1	2
15 - 24	7	1	8
25 - 44	6	6	12
45 - 64	40	23	63
65 - 69	30	18	48
<u>Total under 70 years</u>	--- 89	--- 52	--- 141
70 - 74	29	29	58
75 - 79	42	37	79
80 - 84	22	38	60
85 - 89	10	22	32
90 - 94	6	12	18
95 - 99	-	1	1
100 plus	-	-	-
<u>Total over 70 years</u>	--- 109	--- 139	--- 248
	<u>198</u>	<u>191</u>	<u>389</u>

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no deaths from maternal causes in 1961.

INFANT MORTALITY

Causes of Death	Under 1 day	1-7 days	1-4 wks	Total under 1 month	1-3 mnths	3-6 mnths	6-9 mnths	9-12 mnths	Total under 1 year
Prematurity	2	3	-	5	-	-	-	-	5
Congenital malformations	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Atelectasis	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
	3	3	-	6	1	-	-	-	7

WATER SUPPLIES

No shortage of water supplies was reported from any part of the District in 1961.

Every parish has a piped water supply and 9,368 houses are supplied by the Bristol Waterworks Company. In addition 41 houses are supplied directly by private supplies. Eight houses are supplied by standpipe. 82 houses depend on wells, 37 on springs, and 20 depend on rainwater for their water supplies. During the year a piped supply was substituted for well water in 3 houses.

Bacteriological and chemical sampling of the public supplies is now carried out by the Bristol Waterworks Company, but independent sampling is still done by the Council's Public Health Department. The results of such sampling are given in the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The following parishes have main drainage and efficient sewage disposal systems:- Axbridge, Banwell, Blagdon, Butcombe, Cheddar, Winscombe, Locking, part of Shipham, Congresbury and Wrington.

The following extensions, new works or improvements were carried out during the year:-

(a) Completed

	<u>Cost</u>
Round Oak Road, Cheddar - sewer extension	£500
Redcliff Street, Cheddar - sewer extension	£1136-15-0.
St. Georges (Parish of Banwell) - sewerage scheme	£8000
Constructed privately taken over by Council	(estimated value)

(b) In Progress

Southmead, Winscombe - sewer extension	£1655
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(c) Future Proposals

(1) Wedmore Sewerage Scheme	£44,400
(2) Hutton, Banwell & Locking Sewerage Scheme (Phase I & II)	£64,000
(3) Brean and Berrow Sewerage Scheme	Not yet ascertained
(4) Kewstoke Sewerage Scheme	£89,500
(5) Bleadon	£30,000
Worston Road, Highbridge (Burnham Without Parish) - small extension to connect to Highbridge Sewerage System	£ 1,000
Southmead, Winscombe - extension	£ 1,650
Stonewell Lane, Congresbury - extension	£ 1,400
Brent Knoll (part) - proposed vesting of privately constructed sewerage scheme	Not yet ascertained

HOUSING

During the past few years, the emphasis on the building of new houses in the District has changed from building by the Local Authority to building by private enterprise. This is seen from the following table.

	New Houses built by	
	Local Authority	Private Enterprise
1957	112	124
1958	34	145
1959	11	181
1960	9	284
1961	8	290
	174	1024

The 8 houses built by the District Council in 1961 were Old People's bungalows. Another 29 houses including 19 Old People's bungalows were in the course of erection at the end of the year.

	<u>December</u> <u>1961</u>	<u>December</u> <u>1960</u>
Number of houses owned by the Council	1568	1560
Number of houses requisitioned by the Council	-	2
Number of applicants for Council houses (inc. Old People's dwellings)	414	308
Number of families rehoused during the year	52	62

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the notifications of infectious diseases in the District during the year:-

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total cases notified</u>
Measles	442
Scarlet Fever	8
Diphtheria	-
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-
Meningococcal Infection	-
Dysentery	-
Whooping Cough	29
Acute Primary Pneumonia	13
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	
Acute Poliomyelitis	-
Acute Encephalitis	-
Erysipelas	2
Food Poisoning	-
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	11
Tuberculosis - Non-Respiratory	2

The usual two-yearly cycle of measles produced 442 notified cases.

TUBERCULOSIS

Eleven new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and two cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year. There was only one death due to this cause during the year. The number of cases on the Register at the end of the year was:-

<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>	
<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
75	61	6	7	81	68

DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

Again there were no cases of diphtheria notified during 1961, the last to occur in the District being in 1946. Immunisation against diphtheria by private doctors and in Infant Welfare Clinics continued throughout the year and 443 children under 5 years of age received primary immunisation. 2 children in the age group 5 - 14 years received primary immunisation and 272 children under the age of 15 years received reinforcing doses.

405 children under the age of five years were immunised against Whooping Cough.

POLIOMYELITIS IMMUNISATION

Immunisation against poliomyelitis continued at a satisfactory rate, for the young child and for those of school age. In this group 590 received the primary course of two injections during the year. The numbers from older age groups were again disappointing, particularly from those aged 17 - 28, where only 133 had the primary course. In the age group 29 - 40, 418 received the primary course. In addition 15 people in priority groups or over age 40 were immunised.

1,139 persons (in all age groups) were given the third or re-inforcing injection during the year.

During 1961, it was decided that, to complete the course of immunisation, it was necessary to give a fourth injection to children age 5 - 12 years and 2017 children in this age group were given this fourth injection.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

The following table shows the number of people vaccinated or revaccinated by private general practitioners:-

<u>Under 1 Year</u>		<u>1 Year</u>		<u>2 - 4 Yrs.</u>		<u>5 - 14 Yrs.</u>		<u>15 Yrs.or Over</u>		<u>TOTAL</u>	
<u>P.</u>	<u>R.</u>	<u>P.</u>	<u>R.</u>	<u>P.</u>	<u>R.</u>	<u>P.</u>	<u>R.</u>	<u>P.</u>	<u>R.</u>	<u>P.</u>	<u>R.</u>
132	1	21	-	8	-	17	3	1	2	179	6

P. = Primary Vaccination

R. = Revaccination

HOSPITALS, CLINICS ETC.

Hospital facilities for general medical and surgical cases are available for patients in the Rural District at Bristol, Weston-super-Mare and Burnham-on-Sea. Since 1949 cases of infectious diseases have been admitted mainly to Ham Green Hospital, Bristol, but a few from the southern part of the District are admitted to Taunton Isolation Hospital. Shute Shelve Hospital, which was originally the Infectious Diseases Hospital, was used for some time for tuberculosis, but now takes post-operative cases from Bristol and Weston-super-Mare. Functioning as such, it plays a very valuable role in increasing the number of patients being treated in such hospitals as the Weston-super-Mare General Hospital, and thus helps to reduce the hospital waiting list.

Tlex Lodge Hospital in Axbridge and Drove Road Hospital in Weston-super-Mare provide beds for sick old people who cannot be nursed at home.

Maternity cases who require admission to hospital either on medical or social grounds are admitted to various maternity hospitals in Bristol, Clevedon, Weston-super-Mare, Bridgwater and Wells, and ten obstetric beds have been provided as a temporary measure at Weston-super-Mare General Hospital.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held at Axbridge, Cheddar, Winscombe, Banwell, Bleadon, Hutton, Kewstoke, Locking, Wrington and Congresbury.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
1961.

TO: THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
AXBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the Year 1961.

HOUSING

The following tables indicate the progress which was made during the year in dealing with sub-standard houses.

Discretionary Improvement Grants.

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Rejected</u>
Position at 31st December, 1960.	379 applications (428 dwellings)	367 applications (414 dwellings)	12 applications (14 dwellings)
Applications dealt with during 1961.	38 applications (43 dwellings)	38 applications (43 dwellings)	- application (- dwelling)
Position at 31st December, 1961.	417 applications (471 dwellings)	405 applications (457 dwellings)	12 applications (14 dwellings)

Standard Improvement Grants.

	<u>Applications Received</u>	<u>Applications Approved</u>	<u>Applications Rejected</u>
Position at 31st December, 1960.	48	42	6
Applications dealt with during 1961.	21	19	2
Position at 31st December, 1961.	69	61	8

Rural Housing Survey.

During the year 58 surveyed houses were made fit compared with 59 in 1960. 1 house was demolished during the year. The summary of categories, revised to December, 1961, is as follows:-

Number of properties satisfactory in all respects (Category 1)	940
Number of properties with minor defects (Category 2)	515
Number of properties requiring major repair or structural alteration (Category 3)	2,169
Number of properties unfit for habitation and incapable of repair at reasonable cost (Category 5)	280

Statutory Action under the Provisions of
The Housing Acts.

During the year, statutory action under the provisions of Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957 was instituted in respect of 11 dwellings. The result of such action is summarised as follows:-

Cases under consideration at 31.12.60.	28
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During 1961

Demolition Orders made	-
Closing Orders made	1
Undertakings accepted not to use premises for human habitation until made fit	...			15
Undertakings accepted to make premises fit				1
Cases under consideration at 31.12.61.	...			22

OVERCROWDING

On the 31st December, 1961 there were 3 cases of statutory overcrowding on the register. It is generally recognised that the statutory definition of overcrowding is based on too low a standard. There are many houses in the District which would be listed as overcrowded if the standard were based on bedroom accommodation only.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

During the year the implementation of the Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act, 1960 caused a considerable amount of work. Much time was taken up in interviews with site owners and in discussions with their technical advisers who were preparing the necessary site plans. Although site owners may not agree with all the site licensing conditions, there was a general welcome for a higher and more uniform standard. Particularly in the seaside areas, there seemed to be a widespread feeling that implementation of the higher standards would make the area more attractive to the caravan holiday-maker.

A.	Number of caravan sites licensed during the year	41
	Number of applications for caravan site licences pending	31
	Total number of caravans permitted on these sites	2,475
B.	Number of tent sites licensed during year	3
	Number of tents permitted on these sites	76

FOOD PREMISES

Details of the number of routine inspections of food premises are given in the summary at the end of this report.

No statutory proceedings were instituted during the year.

Particulars of the various types of food premises in the District are given below:-

Number of Food Premises in Area (excluding registered dairy premises)

A.	<u>Food Manufacturing Premises</u>	
	Edible Fat Refineries	2
	Cheese Straw Factory	1
	Cheese Factories	3
	Bakers	9
B.	<u>Retail Shops</u>	
	Grocers	129
	Confectioners	40
	Butchers	21
	Fishmongers & Greengrocers (combined)	4
	Greengrocers	7
	Dairies	2
C.	<u>Catering Premises</u> <u>(including licensed premises)</u>	137
D.	<u>Premises registered under the provisions</u> <u>of Section 14. of the Food & Drugs Act,</u> <u>1938 (excluding premises used for the</u> <u>manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream)</u>	
	Sausage making	13
	Fish frying	4

MILK AND DAIRIES

Number of registered dairies	8
Number of milk distributors registered (premises in this District)	55
Number of milk distributors registered (premises outside the District)	16

ICE CREAM

All ice-cream manufactured in the District is manufactured in accordance with the provisions of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment etc.) Regulations, 1947 to 1952, in preparation rooms which have been especially constructed or adapted for the purpose. There are again no matters which call for special comment.

The overall results of the samples taken are regarded as satisfactory.

Number of premises registered for the manufacture of ice-cream (complete cold mix)	2
Number of premises registered for the sale of ice-cream	223

Summary of results of ice-cream samples taken.

	<u>Grades</u>				<u>Total</u>
	<u>1.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>3.</u>	<u>4.</u>	
Ice-cream manufactured within the District	6	-	-	-	6
Ice-cream manufactured outside the District	31	5	1	3	40
	37	5	1	3	46

WATER SUPPLIES

The following is a summary of the results of the bacteriological examinations of the monthly water samples taken from the public supplies. All these supplies are chlorinated.

	<u>Probable No. of Coliform Bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37°C.</u>	
	<u>0 per 100 ml.</u>	<u>2 per 100 ml.</u>
Cheddar and Axbridge	12 samples	-
South Mendip (Cross)	12 "	-
South Mendip (Dunyeatt)	12 "	-
Winscombe	12 "	-
North Mendip	11 "	1 (Nil faecal)
Burrington (Chlorinated)	12 "	-
Twin Brook Adit	12 "	-
Blagdon	12 "	-
Kewstoke	12 "	-
North Mendip (Chelvey)	12 "	-
	<hr/> 119 "	<hr/> 1 sample
	<hr/>	<hr/>

A sample of water from each of the above supplies was submitted for chemical analysis during the year. All these samples were reported upon by the Analyst as being free from plumbo-solvency or other harmful contamination.

47 samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination from 26 private premises not receiving a supply from the public mains. The samples of water from 19 of these premises proved to be satisfactory and 7 to be unsatisfactory. A water supply from the public main was substituted for other supplies in 6 cases.

MEAT INSPECTION

Two slaughterhouses were licensed in the District and continued in operation throughout the year. One slaughterhouse closed during the year.

The following table gives particulars of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part during the year.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	136	1	18	526	290	-
Number inspected	136	1	18	526	290	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	1	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	41	1	-	37	27	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	30.1	100	-	7	93	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Weight of meat condemned (in lbs.) for:-						
(a) Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Cysticercosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Other	374 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	-	59 $\frac{3}{4}$	55 $\frac{1}{2}$	-
Total (in lbs.) condemned	374 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	-	59 $\frac{3}{4}$	55 $\frac{1}{2}$	-

CESSPOOL CLEANSING

The total number of cesspools and settlement tanks emptied is almost double the 1960 figure. This is mainly due to the taking over by the Department of the work of emptying Council House cesspools.

Total number of cesspools and settlement
tanks cleansed during the year 1,315

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

There was an increase of nearly 400 tons in the amount of refuse collected in 1961 compared with the amount collected in 1960.

The sale of waste paper during the year again proved difficult and stocks of paper and cardboard in store at the Depot at the end of the year were high.

The new controlled tip at Portmead Drove, Axbridge came into operation in September 1961. This enabled a complete re-organisation of the refuse collection routes to be effected. New housing development and increased amounts of refuse in the holiday areas nullified the economies which resulted from this re-organisation and considerable overtime working in the summer months was necessary.

Estimated total amount of refuse
collected during the year 7,791 tons

Total amount of salvaged material
disposed of during year:-

	<u>T.</u>	<u>Cwt.</u>	<u>Qr.</u>	<u>£.</u>	<u>s.</u>	<u>d.</u>
(a) Paper and Cardboard	138	16	1	694.	1.	3.
(b) Non-ferrous metals	1	8	1	134.	3.	9.
<hr/>						
Total amount realised by the sale of material salvaged.				£828.	5.	0.
<hr/>						

RODENT CONTROL

The following is a copy of the annual return submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, which gives details of rodent control work carried out in the District during the 12 months ending 31st December, 1961.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949. REPORT FOR 12 MONTHS ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1961.

	<u>TYPE OF PROPERTY</u> <u>Non-Agricultural</u>				
	Local Authority	Dwellings Houses (inc.Council Houses)	All other (inc.business premises)	Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3	Agric- ultural
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
V. Total inspections carried out - inc. re-inspections	65	1761	261	2087	422
VI. No.of infested properties in Sections II, III & IV treated by the L.A.	12	467	28	507	42
VII. Total treatments carried out - inc. re-treatments	16	487	32	535	62
VIII. No.of notices served under Sec.4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Structural Work (i.e.proofing)	-	-	-	-	-
IX. No.of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sec.4 of Act	-	-	-	-	-
X. Legal Proceedings	-	-	-	-	-
XI. No.of "Block" control schemes carried out	46				

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

The following table gives the particulars of the work carried out during the year:-

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions of health:-

<u>Premises</u>	<u>Number on Register</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Number of Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers Prosecuted</u>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	2	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	107	101	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' premises)	12	12	Nil	Nil
	123	115	Nil	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Number of cases in which defects were found</u>		<u>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</u>
			<u>Referred to</u>		
			<u>To H.M. Insp.</u>	<u>By H.M. Insp.</u>	
Want of cleanliness (S1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	3	2	-	3	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
	4	3	-	4	-

PETROLEUM

All petroleum storage installations are inspected annually before applications for renewal of licences are considered by the Public Health Committee.

Tests of existing underground storage tanks were initiated towards the end of the year.

Number of premises licensed for the storage of petrol	133
Number of existing underground tanks tested	2
Number of underground tanks failing test	Nil

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT BY, OR UNDER THE
SUPERVISION OF, THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Total number of inspections made (including re-inspections)	4,893
Total number of houses and premises inspected	1,991

Number of inspections made of:-

Dwelling houses	2,042
Food premises and catering establishment (Food & Drugs Act)	466
Caravan Sites and Moveable Dwellings	536
Factories	115
Shops (Shops Act)	291
Ice Cream Premises	70
Dairies	10
Drainage Systems	248
Petrol Installations	558
Swill boiling plants	28
Agricultural Holdings	31
Premises as the result of complaints of nuisance	460

Number of samples taken:-

Ice Cream	44
Water	180
Tests of Swimming Bath Water	20
Investigations into cases of infectious diseases	36
Premises, disinfected or disinfested	31
Drain tests of drainage systems believed to be defective	22

In conclusion I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their support and the Medical Officer of Health, the other Chief Officers of the Council and the staff of the Public Health Department for their co-operation and assistance during the year.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

J. H. ELLIS.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

